

The China Mail

Established February, 1845.

VOL. XXXVII. NO. 5481.

號五月二年一十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1881.

日七初月正年己辛

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 11 & 12, Clement's Street, Lombard Street, E.C. GEORGE GROTON & CO., 80, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES HENRY & CO., 4, Old Jewry, E.C. SAMUEL DEACON & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—LEON DE ROSY, 19, Rue Monsieur, Paris.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 123, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & CO., Square, Singapore. C. HEINZEN & CO., Manila.

CHINA.—MACAO, MESES A. A. DE MELLO & CO., Macao. CAMPBELL & CO., Amoy. WILSON, NICHOLS & CO., Foochow. HERSEY & CO., Shanghai. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WAHL, Yokohama. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Co.

Banks.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars. RESERVE FUND, 1,600,000 Dollars.

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman, Hon. W. KESWICK. Deputy Chairman, A. MOYER, Esq.

A. OLDFIELD, Esq. H. DE C. FORSTER, Esq. R. B. DALMIPPLE, Esq. H. HOPKINS, Esq. H. L. DALMIPPLE, Esq. F. D. SASSON, Esq. Esq. W. S. YOUNG, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER, HONGKONG. THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER, Shanghai. EWEN CAMERON, Esq. LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG. INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits:

For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum. " 6 " 4 per cent. " 12 " 5 per cent. "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts, granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Offices of the Corporation, No. 1, Queen's Road East.

Hongkong, August 16, 1880.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMpte DE PARIS.

(Incorporated 7th & 18th March, 1848.)

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION of 30TH APRIL, 1862.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP, £2,000,000.

RESERVE FUND, £300,000.

HEAD OFFICE—14, Rue BEBOERE, PARIS.

AGENCIES and BRANCHES at: LONDON, BOURBON, SAN FRANCISCO, MARSEILLE, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LYON, CALCUTTA, BARROW, NANTES, SHANGHAI, FOOCHEW, MELBOURNE.

LONDON BANKERS: THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

The Hongkong Agency receives Fixed Deposits on Terms to be ascertained on application, grants Drafts and Credits on all parts of the World, and transacts every description of Banking Exchange Business.

E. G. VOUILLEMONT, Manager, Shanghai.

Hongkong, May 20, 1879.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,500,000.

RATES OF INTEREST ALLOWED ON POSTS.

At 3 months notice 3% per annum.

" 6 " 4% "

" 12 " 5% "

Current Accounts kept on Terms which may be learnt on application.

GEO. O. SCOTT,

Acting Manager.

Oriental Bank Corporation,

Hongkong, September 4, 1879.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Original Script Certificate No. 2003 is now numbered 241, 311 and 869 in the above Company, standing in the name of REUBEN SOLOMON, having been issued on the said Original Script Certificate, has been CANCELLED and a Duplicate issued to the Holder of the said certificate.

No transaction taking place under the said Original Script Certificate No. 2003 will hereafter be recognized by the Undersigned.

By Order,

J. BRADLEE SMITH, Secretary.

Hongkong, January 21, 1881.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

M. R. EDWARD ALBERT SASOON and Mr. AARON MOSES GUBBAY have been admitted PARTNERS in our Firm in INDIA, CHINA and ENGLAND, from this date.

DAVID SASOON & CO., Bombay, February 1, 1881.

NOTICE.

M. R. ERNST LUDWIG REUTER has been admitted a PARTNER in our Firm.

PUSTAU & CO., Hongkong and Canton, February 1, 1881.

NOTICE.

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP of SHARP AND DANBY having been DISSOLVED by mutual consent, it is requested that all Suma Due and all Claims be sent in to Mr. Sharp for Liquidation of the firm before the 28th day of FEBRUARY instant.

Mr. DANBY will carry on the business of Architect, Surveyor, and Civil Engineer, under his own name.

Mr. SHARP will continue his Land and Estate Agency, under his former style of Sharp & CO. at the Office hitherto occupied by Sharp and Danby, No. 13, Queen's Road, opposite the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.

GRANVILLE SHARP. WILLIAM DANBY. Hongkong, February 1, 1881.

NOTICE.

M. R. NICOLAUS AUGUST SIERS has this day been admitted a PARTNER in our Firm at Hongkong and in China, and Mr. ALEXANDER WASSERFALL has been authorized to SIGN the Firm per Prosecution.

SIEMSEN & CO., Hongkong, January 1, 1881.

NOTICE.

M. R. WILLIAM WALKINSHAW has RETIRED from our Firm, and his INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY have CEASED.

The Business will be carried on as heretofore by the remaining Partners, viz.—Messrs PHINIAS RYRLE, EDWARD CARRY SMITH, and ARTHUR WELLSLEY WALKINSHAW, TURNER & CO.

Hongkong, January 25, 1881.

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M. R. WILLIAM WALKINSHAW has RETIRED from our Firm, and his INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY have CEASED.

The Business will be carried on as heretofore by the remaining Partners, viz.—Messrs PHINIAS RYRLE, EDWARD CARRY SMITH, and ARTHUR WELLSLEY WALKINSHAW, TURNER & CO.

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Hongkong, January 25, 1881.

For Sale.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

HAVE RECEIVED EXX. "GLENEARN," "GLENFIFEYR," &c.—WHITAKER'S ALMANACKS.

Intimations.

THIS HAIR WASH has been prepared by us for the last 20 years. Its sale is steadily increasing in India, the Straits and Japan. It possesses all the qualities of a Hair Oil or Pomade without their stickiness. It induces a healthy action of the scalp and nourishes the Hair. Dandruff never appears whilst it is in use. It contains none but the best ingredients, and the greatest care is taken in the compound. When the Hair falls off after fever or any other sickness, this Wash will surely prove of the greatest value.



THE LAOU-TI-KEE HAIR WASH

An unique and elegant appendage to the Toilet, combining in itself the properties of a Hair Lotion, Wash, and Hair Restorer.

PREPARED ONLY BY J. LLEWELLYN & CO., Chemists, &c., SHANGHAI.

DIRECTIONS.
A small portion to be poured upon the Head, and to be rubbed into the roots of the Hair. No Pomade required.

From its great nourishing power on the follicles it may in time cause Hair to return to its natural color; it, however, does not contain a particle of any dyeing ingredient. Using it constantly will most certainly prevent the Hair falling. It is obtainable, in the smallest quantity, at 15c. It has no sediment, and therefore requires no shaking.

J. LLEWELLYN & CO.,
Shanghai.
Hongkong Agents: LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Entertainment.

V. R.
GARRISON THEATRE.
BY KIND PERMISSION
OF
Major-General E. W. DONOVAN, Colonel
L. F. HALL, Major ROKE, and
OFFICERS Royal Artillery.
THE ROYAL ARTILLERY DRAMATIC CLUB
will give
A PERFORMANCE
ON
MONDAY EVENING,
7th February, 1881,
FOR THE BENEFIT OF A WIDOW OF THE
Corps.

The Performance will commence each Evening with the ORIGINAL DRAMA, in Three Acts, entitled
"NEXT OF KIN."

Characters.
Mr. Mountjoy, A. CHAMPION.
Mr. Grubton, a Lawyer, E. G. REYNOLDS.
Mr. Faule, a Lawyer, W. LOCKE.
Timothy Clump, alias
Theodore Viller, J. DADE.
Sam, a Footman, F. FULLINGHAM.
Buttons, a Page, A. J. SEARLE.
Hafiz, a Hindoo, M. TAYLOR.
Miss Clara Mountjoy, Miss G. J. LAURE.
Mrs. Clump, a Laundrywoman, J. SMITH.

An Interval of Ten Minutes.

Mrs. BERNARD and Mr. LESLIE
of the
AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB
Have kindly consented to give
A Scene from the "Hunchback"
AS AN INTERLUDE.

An Interval of Five Minutes.

To conclude each Evening with the ORIGINAL DRAMA, entitled
"Two Heads are Better than One,"
Mr. St. George, a Soldier, J. DADE.
Charles Conquest, in love
with Eliza, A. CHAMPION.
Mr. Maxwellton, an old
Gentleman of fortune, G. J. LAURE.
Sammy Maxwellton, his
Son, an ardent youth, E. G. REYNOLDS.
Ellen Strange, his Niece, Mrs. B. DAVIDS.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:
Reserved Seats, \$2.00.
Second Seats, \$1.00.
Third Seats, \$0.50.

Tickets can be obtained at the Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Messes, Canton Barracks R.A. and 27th Inniskillings, all Pay Sergeants, and at the Door on Nights of Performance.

Doors open at 8.30 p.m.
To Commence at 9.00.

Punahs will be kept in motion during the Performance.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."
Hongkong, February 6, 1881.

HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE MEMBERS of the above SOCIETY will perform SULLIVAN'S OPERETTA,
H.M.S. "PIAFORE,"

on
WEDNESDAY,
February 6th.

Performance to commence at 9 p.m.

FUNERALS.
Tickets (Price 20) can be obtained at
Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., on and
after Monday, the 7th February, at Noon.
Hongkong, February 2, 1881.

To-day's Advertisements.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

THE KAISER-I-HIND GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Indian Companies Act X. of 1860.

CAPITAL, Rs. 12,000,000,
(With Power to Increase)

In 48,000 SHARES of Rs. 25 EACH,

Of which 33,000 are now offered to the Public.

Rs. 5 PAYABLE ON APPLICATION; Rs. 10 PAYABLE ON ALLOTMENT.

Balance as required at discretion of the Directors.

Sir THOMAS RAJAH THOMSON, Bart.
NAHADHO BYRAMAH JEEDEROV, Esq.
Major CHARLES H. STRUTT, R.A. (Retired)

Ltd.—C. B. LYNCH, Esq. (of Messrs Craigie, Lynch, and Owen).

FRANCIS DINSHAW PATE, Esq. (of Messrs. C. and F. Dinshawjee), Director of the Mysore Spinning and Manufacturing Co., Limited.

CHARLES H. FORBES, Esq. (of Messrs C. H. Forbes & Co.), Director of the Ryton Gold Mining Company Limited.

(With power to add to their number)

Secretary & Treasurer,
Messrs C. H. B. FORBES & Co., Madras Agents.

Solicitors,
Messrs CRAIGIE, LYNCH, and OWEN.

Consulting Engineer in Bombay—A. W. Forder, Esq., M.I.C.E.

Bankers,
CHARTERED MERCHANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON & CHINA.

PROSPECTUS.

THE "KAISER-I-HIND GOLD MINING COMPANY, Limited," is formed for the purpose of acquiring and carrying mining rights situated in the now celebrated Colar District of Mysore, and also for the purpose of carrying on the usual operations of Gold-Mining in India, more especially by means of crushing and utilizing the quartz and extracting Gold and other minerals therefrom.

The mining rights to be immediately acquired by the Company extend over a block of land containing about one square mile.

A special report on this block has been obtained from Mr. John Harris, Mining Engineer; and it will be seen that this report, which is annexed, is of a very encouraging nature. It shows that the property is situated about 40 miles east of Bangalore or the Mysore Plateau, and within 8 miles of the Colar Road station, that a good road is in course of construction to within a short distance of the Company's land to which it can easily be extended in a short time at a moderate cost. The many special advantages of the Colar Gold Fields include an abundant supply of cheap labour, and the proximity of a direct road to the coast. Timber and fuel can be obtained to an unlimited extent at moderate cost, and there is an ample supply of water for milling purposes. A further most important point is that the Title is declared by the vendors to be unacceptable. The Mining rights will be acquired by the Company direct from the Colar Concessionaries who derive them from the Mysore Government. These Mining rights will be absolutely secured to the Company for the unexpired period of a term of 30 years (less ten days), subject to the payment of a small land tax and a royalty on the net proceeds of the Gold. This royalty, which will never exceed 5 per cent. on the value of the Gold raised, will only be charged by the Mysore Government in the event of the British Government deciding to impose a similar tax in British territory. At present the British Government do not make any such charge, nor is it likely they will do so for some time to come.

The purchase-money is seven-and-a-half lakhs, half to be paid in cash and half in shares, and it is believed that the remaining capital of the Company, viz., four-and-a-half lakhs, will be ample for the successful working of the property. The vendors are to sell out of the said purchase-money the claims of Messrs C. H. Forbes & Co. and Messrs ARBUTHNOT & Co., Madras, for their services in promoting the Company and negotiating the sale.

Name (in full).....

Address

Profession (if any).....

Date 1881.

Signature

Copies of the Prospectus with Report in full can be had on application to Messrs C. H. FORBES & Co., Bombay; and Messrs ARBUTHNOT & Co., Madras.

Hongkong, February 5, 1881. fe12

FOR AMOY.

The Steamship "Esmeralda,"

Captain TALBOT, will be despatched for the above Port on MONDAY, the 7th Inst., at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, February 5, 1881. fe12

FOR AMOY.

The Steamship "Fokien,"

Captain ASBOTT, will be despatched for the above Port on TUESDAY, the 8th Instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, February 5, 1881. fe12

FOR CASTLE LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship "Loudoun Castle,"

MARSHALL, Commander, will be despatched for the above Port at 5 p.m., on TUESDAY, the 8th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, February 5, 1881. fe12

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

The Steamship "Moray,"

Captain M. J. BUTCHER, will be despatched for the above Ports on SATURDAY, the 12th Inst., at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, February 5, 1881. fe12

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE YEARLY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the OFFICES of the Company, No. 14, Praya Central, on TUESDAY, February 22nd, at 11 a.m., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, and a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1880.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 7th to the 22nd instant, inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

D. GILLIES, Secretary.

Hongkong, February 5, 1881. fe12

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

MESSRS ARBUTHNOT & Co. have reported to the Directors the Company's Madras Gold Fields affairs, the best possible guarantee, that the local interest of the Company will be most carefully looked after.

Early application for shares on the accompanying form together with a remittance

To-day's Advertisements.

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cares for us know no limits—You, dear parents and respected friends, whose only pride is to see your beloved children progressing in their studies and in that wisdom which alone will make us useful members of society, and worthy to transmit to a future generation, together with your name, the example of all virtues.

"We have invited you, I say, not to exhibit ourselves as models of eloquence but merely to witness our joy in receiving the prizes presented to us by generous donors. Long and hard have we laboured under the guidance of our good teachers to acquire a store of knowledge that shall fit us for usefulness in after life.

"We feel that our privileges have been great, and, if we have made no improvement, we shall be obliged to confess that we have been negligent of our duties, and indifferent to the instructions of our beloved professors, for we are sure that every reasonable effort has been made to advance us in the path of virtue.

"But we humbly trust, our time and our advantages have not been wholly misimproved, and that we shall on this occasion furnish some evidence to show that we have accomplished something.

After the above address had been read and the Governor had bowed his acknowledgement, various lively selections were played.

Bishop Rainford then said: That it was the most sincere feeling of gratitude that he rose to thank His Excellency for his great kindness in coming here to-day to preside at the distribution of prizes. The result of the examination had already been communicated to His Excellency by Dr Eitel, the Government Inspector of Schools, who with Mr May, of the Central School, had examined the pupils of this Institution. The result had been satisfactory and he had been glad to remark a notable improvement in composition. The boys who passed the 6th Standard last year were preparing for the scholarship this year, but as it was found that it was not yet ready to be given, they had not been examined. They were glad to see boys continuing at school after they had passed all the Standards. The clause of the grant-in-aid regulations as to the two hundred attendances was still a great drawback. They had to wait for Dr Eitel that he permitted some boys who had not put in their two hundred attendances to be examined before giving the prize. He could give it to a young gentleman to whom he had given before the first prize at school. This young gentleman, of whom a tale of lamented friend of his own had gained this prize, had secured a Government appointment mainly through his knowledge of English, his good conduct, and the result of his examinations at school. He referred to Mr Louis Almada, who was about to be appointed to a clerkship in the Colonial Secretary's office. There also was to his knowledge in another important school of this Colony, the Central School, a boy whose name the Head Master brought before him as one of the most distinguished boys in the school; that was young Sampson; he conferred on him a post in the Harbour Master's office. He did not wish every boy in this Colony to understand that all the vacancies to posts in the Colonial service were open to them, but he desired them to bear in mind also that from time to time appointments were made on the examinations held in the public schools of this Colony, and the reports concerning the clever boys which were made by the teachers. Having said so much he would now proceed to distribute the prizes.

The following is the prize list:—

PRIZE LIST.

5TH CLASS.

F. Xavier, for Arithmetic, an inkstand, presented by Chevalier D. Musso; for Reading, a fancy penholder, presented by the Brothers.

F. Favaio, for Reading, an inkstand, presented by Chevalier D. Musso; for Spelling, a paper weight, presented by Mr Ega da Silva; and a penknife, presented by the Director.

G. Baptista, for Arithmetic, an inkstand, presented by Chevalier D. Musso; for Reading, a pocket-book, presented by Mr Ega da Silva.

G. Farias, for Arithmetic, a book, "Sunday Walks about Loureiro," presented by the Brothers; and a fancy penholder, presented by the Brothers.

F. Rebeiro, for Arithmetic, a book, "Algebra," for Algebra, and Spelling, a fancy penholder, presented by the Brothers.

F. Adams, for Reading, a book, "Twelve Tales for the Young," presented by His Lordship the Bishop Rainford.

J. A. Carvalho, for Reading, a book, "The Unravelled Tales," presented by His Lordship the Bishop.

G. Carvalho, for Reading, a book, "Primus Geography," presented by Mr Ega da Silva.

F. M. Monteiro, for Reading, a book, "Primary Geography," presented by Mr Ega da Silva.

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A STORY IN VERSE.

Invita, regina, tuo do liro cost—*Vergil.*
Not without thoughts that ade with memories
Of foreign seasons and of days and nights
Of other skies I look back, and cannot
Face familiar scenes and waters.
But now grown alien to my travelled eyes—
Accosted long to foreign sights, I muse
Upon the scenes and faces of a home
Of many a year ago.

I saw her first!

When we drove from the railway station where Her father met me some a long time ago From my old home, and bid me to a house Before a fire, upon a piano and a chair, He said, "This is your home again, my dear. Come." Clad in a winter cloak of red A little girl, she might be ten years old And more, was standing at the iron gate Underneath two grey leafless hawthorn trees; And as our carriage neared, I looked, And Margaret was laughing merrily.

Six winters passed; my school and college days Were over. The night before I left the house Where grew two hawthorn by the gate, We had an open space of green and sky; Before a fire, upon a piano and a chair, The merry meeting laughed; I looked, And Margaret was not laughing merrily.

The carriage stood outside the iron gate Underneath two grey leafless hawthorn trees; Before an open space of green and sky; We had a fire, upon a piano and a chair, The merry meeting laughed; I looked, And Margaret was weeping bitterly.

The autumn came. Again at the old gate Underneath two grey leafless hawthorn trees Before an open space of green and sky, The noise stoned. "Farwell, remember me!" Poor Margaret was weeping bitterly.

Hongkong, January 30, 1881.

CONTRACTORS AND ENGINEERS.

(The Engineer, Dec. 3.)

When any considerable engineering work, such for example as a bridge, is to be constructed, the practice to prepare certain instructions—which are known as "The Specification"—and to invite contractors to say for what price they will carry out the work according to the instructions given in the specification. Other things being equal, the contractor who is willing to do the work for the smallest remuneration is usually employed. The system is very simple, and apparently satisfactory, but it is not without defects, and it is very much to be desired that these defects should be eliminated. The specification is always drawn up by an engineer, or some one who is an engineer by repute. Very often the contractor is also an engineer, and if he be not himself a member of the profession, he is, if a prudent man careful to employ some one who has special and competent knowledge of the kind of work to be done. A moment's consideration will show that from the outset there are two contending powers engaged in the engineer who prepared the specification—the first wishes the work to be done as well as possible; the second wishes it to be done at the lowest possible price. But low prices and good workmanship are incompatible; and it is well known that the life of a contractor may be exceedingly harassing and arduous. Nothing but incessant attention to the work will keep their operations up to the proper standard; for example, only those who have tried it can realize how difficult it is to get apprentice lads or wholly untrained men to do good riveting which will satisfy an engineer.

The engineer who prepares a specification appoints an official known as an "inspector" to see how the contractor carries out his work. The inspector has tolerably large powers in one sense; in another he has no power at all. If he finds that the contractor does not comply with the instructions given him by the specification, he can compel him to suspend his operations until an appeal can be made to the engineer. If the engineer pleases he can approve of the action taken by the inspector, or he may advise the contractor. In any case the inspector cannot go an inch beyond the specification and in all cases of doubt he can refer the contractor to the specification. So long as the latter is observed, the inspector can make no objection to any kind with propriety; it will be seen from all this that the specification is a very important document, and whenever disputes arise between the contractor and the engineer they turn on the meaning of the specification, and this is very usually and obliquely confounded with the meaning of the engineer and that of the contractor. Ostensibly a specification and contract are very straightforward, sensible documents, concerning which there ought to be no mental confusion whatever. The contractor reads the specification, and is supposed to make himself master of its contents. Having done this, he states in writing what virtually means that he will carry out the instructions for a certain sum of money. With first-class contractors we have nothing at present to do. They comply not only to the letter, but in the spirit with the specification. We are now considering the action of men, both contractors and engineers, who do not hold a first rank, and who are nevertheless very expert. The second-rate contractor is one who can only be got to work to his specification with great difficulty; and he is always in doubt as to what a specification means, and the construction to be put upon it. For example, let us suppose that a specification has been prepared for a set of sears, or a dozen pairs of nice boots. In the specification for the first we may find such a clause as this: "All the boots are to be good hard pickled stocks. They are to be laid in cement mortar, gauged two of sand to one of cement, and the cement is to be fresh ground and of the best quality." In the boiler specification we find, "the workmanship is throughout to be the very best." Now it is extremely unlikely that an honourable contractor would have the least difficulty in knowing what is meant by the passages quoted. But a contractor who is honest, but not honourable, might have very great difficulty. What is a "good hard, pickled stock boot"? Surely opinions will differ on this point. What does "fresh ground" mean? Must the cement have been in the mill not more than a week ago, or would it not deserve to be called fresh ground even after the lapse of a year? It compared with other cement which had been in store for three years? If the cement had got a little damp, and had been put through the mill a few times for obvious reasons, could it not be regarded as fresh ground? The point is, that the cement have been in the mill not more than a week ago, or would it not deserve to be called fresh ground even after the lapse of a year? It compared with other cement which had been in store for three years? If the cement had got a little damp, and had been put through the mill a few times for obvious reasons, could it not be regarded as fresh ground? The point is, that the cement have been in the mill not more than a week ago, or would it not deserve to be called fresh ground even after the lapse of a year? It compared with other cement which had been in store for three years? If the cement had got a little damp, and had been put through the mill a few times for obvious reasons, could it not be regarded as fresh ground?

Might not the contractor plead that he has great comfort in the cement, and has enabled them honestly enough to withstand competition who do not look upon signing a bill as a matter of form? We can hardly blame the former, but we sympathize with the latter. If a determined effort were made to attach to contracts and specifications the weight which they truly carry, very much would be gained, and we should have less questioning as to the meaning of specifications which were certainly never meant to be a terror to honest men.

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Hongkong, January 26, 1881.

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BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE,

SOUTHAMPTON, AND LONDON;

ALSO,

BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND

AUSTRALIA.

THE S. S. London Castle, MARSHAL,

Commander, having arrived from the

above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby

informed that the Goods are being landed

at their risk into the Godowns of the Uni-

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be obtained.

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Optional Cargo will be forwarded on, unless

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Noon To-day.

No. Claims will be admitted after the

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No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, February 4, 1881.

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FROM LONDON, SINGAPORE AND
PENANG.

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(Revised December 1st, 1880.)

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